THE ORDINANCE AND DECLARATION of the LORDS and COMMONS, for the Assessing all such who have not contributed sufficiently for raising of *Money, Plate, &c.*

WITH

HIS MAJESTIES DECLARATION TO all His loving Subjects upon *occasion thereof.*

Charles R.

OVr expresse pleasure is, That this Our Declaration be Published in all Churches and Chappels within the Kingdom of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*, by the Parsons, Vicars or Curates of the same.

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By LEONARD LICHFIELD Printer *to the Vniversity.* 1642.

An Ordinance and Declaration of the *Lords and Commons in Parliament.*

WHereas the King ſeduced by wicked Counſell hath rayſed an Army, and leavied Warre againſt the Parliament, and great number of Forces are daily raiſed under the commands of Papiſts and other ill-affected perſons, by Commiſſions from His Majeſty; And whereas diverſe Delinquents are protected from publike Iuſtice by His Majeſties Army, and ſundry outrages and rapines are daily committed by the Souldiers of the ſaid Army, who have no reſpect to the Lawes of God or the Land, but burne and plunder the Houſes, and ſeize and deſtroy the perſons and goods of divers His Majeſties good Subjects; And whereas for the maintenance of the ſaid Army divers aſſeſſements are made upon ſeverall Counties, and His Majeſties Subjects are compelled by the ſouldiers to pay the ſame; which ſaid Army if it ſhould continue, would ſoon ruine and waſt the whole Kingdom, and overthrow Religion, Law, and Liberty. For ſuppreſſing of which ſaid Army and ill-affected perſons, there is no probable way under God, but by the army rayſed by authority of the Parliament; which ſaid army ſo raiſed, cannot be maintained without great ſummes of Money, yet for raiſing ſuch ſummes, by reaſon of His Majeſties withdrawing Himſelfe from the advice of the Parliament, there can be no Act of Parliament paſſed with His Majeſties aſſent, albeit there is great Iuſtice that the ſaid Monies ſhould be raiſed. The Lords and Commons in Parliament, having taken the ſame into their ſerious conſideration, and knowing that the ſaid

army ſo raiſed by them, hath been hitherto for the moſt part maintained by the voluntary contribution of divers well affected perſons, who have freely contributed according to their abilities.

But conſidering there are divers others within the Citties of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and the Suburbs of the ſame, and alſo within the Borough of *Southwarke*, that have not contributed at all towards the maintenance of the ſaid army, or if they have, yet not anſwerable to their Eſtates, who notwithſtanding receive benefit and protection by the ſame army, as well as any others, and therefore it's moſt juſt, that they ſhould as well as others be charged to contribute to the maintenance thereof.

Be it therefore Ordained by the Lords and Commons in Parliament aſſembled, and by authority thereof; that *Iſaac Pennington* Lord Major of the Citty of *London*, Sir *John Wollaſton* Knight and Alderman, Alderman *Towes*, Alderman *Warner*, Alderman *Andrewes*, Alderman *Chambers*, Alderman *Fowkes*, Sir *Thomas Seham* Knight and Alderman, *Samuel Vaſſell*, *Iohn Venn*, *Morris Thompſon*, and *Richard Warrin*, Citizens, or any foure of them, ſhall hereby have power and authority to nominate, and appoint in every Ward within the City of *London*, ſixe ſuch Perſons as they, or any foure of them, ſhall think fit, which ſaid ſix ſo nominated, or any foure of them, ſhall hereby have power to enquire of any that ſhall remain, or be within the ſaid ſeverall Wards that have not contributed upon the Propoſitions of both Houſes of Parliament, concerning the raiſing of Money, Plate, Horſe, Horſemen, and armes, for defence of the King and both Houſes of Parliament, and alſo of ſuch as are able men, that have contributed, yet not according to their Eſtates and abilities. And the ſaid ſix perſons ſo nominated, or any four of them within their ſeverall and reſpective wards and limits, ſhall have power to aſſeſſe ſuch perſon or perſons, as are of ability and have not contributed, and alſo ſuch as have contributed, yet not according to their ability, to pay ſuch ſum or ſums of Money according to their Eſtates, as the ſaid Aſſeſſors or any foure of them ſhall think fit & reaſonable, ſo as the ſame exceed not the twentieth part of their Eſtates, and to nominate and appoint fit perſons for the collection thereof. And if any perſon ſo aſſeſſed ſhall refuſe to pay the mony aſſeſſed upon him, it ſhall be lawfull to and for the ſaid Aſſeſſors and Collectors, or any of them,

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to leavy the ſaid ſumme ſo aſſeſſed by way of diſtreſſe and ſale of the goods of the perſon ſo aſſeſſed, and refuſing; And if any perſon ſo diſtrained ſhall make reſiſtance, it ſhall be lawfull to and for the reſpective Aſſeſſors and Collectors or any of them, to call to their aſſiſtance any the Trained bands of the ſaid Citty of *London*, or any other His Majeſties Subjects, who are hereby required to be ayding and aſſiſting to the ſaid Aſſeſſors and Collectors in the premiſes; And it is hereby farther ordained, that the reſpective Burgeſſes of *VVeſtminſter* and *Southwark*, together with the ſeverall Committees appointed for the ſubſcriptions of Money, Plate, Horſe, Horſe-men and armes within the ſaid Citty and Borough ſhall reſpectively have power hereby to nominate Seſſors for the ſame Citty and Borough, in ſuch manner as the Lord Major, &c. hath for the City of *London*, and the ſaid Aſſeſſors, or any foure of them, to name Collectors as aforeſaid; Which ſaid Aſſeſſors and Collectors ſhall have the ſame power reſpectively within their reſpective limits, as thoſe to be nominated within the ſaid Citty of *London* have hereby limited to them. And for the Suburbs of *London* and *VVeſtminſter*, the reſpective Knights of the Shires where the ſaid Suburbs are ſhall have hereby the like power to name Aſſeſſors, and they ſo named, or any foure of them, and the Collectors by them to be nominated, or any of them within their reſpective limits, ſhall have the like power reſpectively as the Aſſeſſors and Collectors for *London* have by vertue of this Ordinance. And be it ordained that the ſummes ſo aſſeſſed and levied as aforeſaid ſhall be paid in at Guild-Hall *London*, to the hands of Sir *Iohn VVollaſtone*, Knight, *Iohn VVarner*, *Iohn Towes*, and *Thomas Andrewes* Aldermen, or any two of them; And the Aſſeſſors and Collectors to be nominated by vertue hereof ſhall weekly report to the Committee of the Houſe of Commons, for the propoſitions aforeſaid, what ſums of money have been aſſeſſed, and what ſums have been levied weekly according to the purport hereof, and the ſaid monies ſo levied and paid in ſhall be iſſued forth in ſuch ſort as the other monies raiſed upon the propoſitions aforeſaid, and not otherwiſe.

Die Martis, 29. Novemb. 1642.

WHereas a late Ordinance is passed by both Houses of Parliament, for the Reasons therein declared, for the assessing of all such persons within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and the Suburbes thereof, with the Burrough of *Southwark*, as have not contributed upon the Propositions of both Houses of Parliament, for raising of Money, Plate Horse, Horsemen, and Armes, for defence of the King, Parliament and Kingdome, or have not contributed proportionably to their Estates and abilities. And whereas it is thought fit, that some additions be made for further explanation and better execution of the said Ordinance: Be it further ordained and declared by the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, that such persons as shall be assessed by the respective Assessors in the said Ordinance appointed, and shall within six dayes next after notice given to them, or left at their severall houses within the said Cities, Suburbes, or Burrough, pay in the one moity of the said sums of Money so assessed, and within twelve dayes after the said notice given as afore said, the other moity thereof, unto the Treasurers of Money and Plate in *Guild-Hall London*, or unto the Collectors appointed by the said Ordinance, respectively to receive the same, that then the said Treasurers, or Collectors, shall give Acquittances for the same, as hath been done to such who have lent Monies or Plate, upon the Propositions of both Houses as aforesaid. And the said Monyes so paid to the said Treasurers, or to the said severall Collectors, shall be repaid upon the publike Faith, as all other Monies lent upon the said Propositions of both Houses. And as for those who shall so farr discover their disaffection, as not to bring in the severall sums of Money so assessed upon them to the persons before appointed, within the times limited, that then their goods shall be distrained and sold according to the said Ordinance. And if no sufficient distresse be found, that then the said Collectors shall respectively have power to enquire of any summe or summes of Money due, or to be due unto them respectively so assessed from any person or persons for any Rents, Tithes, Goods, or Debts, or for any other thing or cause whatsoever. And the said respective Collectors shall have power by vertue of this Ordinance, to receive all, or any part of the said summes due, or to be due unto them or any of them so assessed, untill the full value of the summe or summes so assessed, and the charges in leavying and recovering of the same shall be received and satisfied.

tisfied. And the ſaid reſpective Collectors ſhall have further power to compound for any of the ſaid Rents, Tithes, Goods, or Debts due unto the ſaid perſon ſo aſſeſſed reſpectively as aforeſaid, with any perſon or perſons by whom the ſaid Rents, Tithes, Goods, or Debts, are, or ſhall be owing, as alſo to give full and ample diſcharge for the Money by them ſo received, upon compoſition or otherwiſe, which diſcharges ſhall be good and effectuall to all intents and purpoſes. And if the ſumme or ſummes of Money ſo aſſeſſed cannot be leavyed by any of theſe meanes or wayes, then the perſons ſo reſpectively aſſeſſed, ſhall be impriſoned in ſuch places of this Kingdome, and for ſo long time as the Committtee of the Houſe of Commons for Examinations, ſhall appoint and order. And the families of all ſuch perſons ſo impriſoned, ſhall no longer remaine within the Cittyes of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, the Suburbes and the Counties adjacent.

And be it further Ordayned, that all and every the Aſſeſſors and Collectors of the ſaid ſeverall ſummes, ſhall have the protection of both Houſes of Parliament, for their indemnity in this ſervice, and receive ſuch reaſonable allowances for their paines taken and charges diſburſed, or to be diſburſed therein, as the Committee of Lords & Commons for advance of Money and other neceſſaries for the Army, raiſed by the Parliament, ſhall apportion & appoynt.

An Ordinance of both Houſes of Parliament, for the better Proviſion of Victuals, and other Neceſſaries for the Army, and for payment and ſatisfaction to be made for ſuch Proviſions.

Die Martis, 29. *Novemb.* 1642.

IT is Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament, That Committees ſhall be named in all Counties, to take care for proviſions of Victualls for the Army rayſed by the Parliament, as likewiſe for the taking up of Horſes for ſervice in the Field, Dragoneers, and Draught-Horſes, as likewiſe for borrowing of Money or Plate to ſupply the Army. Which Committees, or any two or more of them, ſhall have power and authority to value all kind of Proviſions both for Men and Horſe, all kind of Horſe for ſervice, or otherwiſe, which ſhall be voluntarily offered to be lent upon the publike Faith, or likewiſe to receive any Money or Plate to be lent as before; & that upon Certificate of any two of ſuch Committees,

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the ſame proviſions of Horſes, Money, & Plate, and the value thereof ſhall be entred by the Treaſurer of the Propoſitions, and ſhall be repayed to the party from whom the ſame was received, with like Conſideration as other Money lent.

And in caſe the owners of ſuch proviſions, money, plate, & Horſes, ſhall refuſe or neglect to bring in the ſame upon publike Faith, for the uſe of the army, for the better preventing the ſpoyle & embezeling of ſuch proviſions of money, plate, & Horſes, by the diſorder of the Souldiers, and that they may not come into the hands of the Enemies, It is further ordered, that the Committees afore mentioned, or any two of them, be hereby authorized & enabled to ſend for ſuch proviſions, money, plate, and Horſes, and take the ſame into their cuſtody, & to ſet an indifferent value & rate upon them; which value they ſhall certifie to the Treaſurers for the propoſitions, to be repaid at ſuch time, and in ſuch manner, as ſhall be Ordered by both Houſes of Parliament. It is likewiſe Ordered, that the ſaid Committees of the ſeverall and reſpective Counties ſhall meet and conſult with the Committees of the adjacent & neighbour Counties, unto the place or places where the ſaid Army, or any part thereof, ſhall paſſe & remaine, concerning the receiving, procuring, valuing, and diſpoſing of ſuch proviſions, horſes, money, & plate. And if they cannot conveniently meet, that then it ſhall be lawfull for any two, or more of the Committee, to execute the ſeverall ſervices above mẽtioned in the adjoyning Counties, as well as in the County wherein he is named a Committee; & that ſuch certificates as they ſhall make of any proviſions, Horſes, Money, or Plate, ſhall be as effectuall for the ſecurities of the parties, as if the ſame were received and taken within the County for which he or they are named Committees. And the ſaid Committees, or any two, or more of them, ſhall cauſe the ſaid proviſions to be delivered to the commiſſary for the Victualls, or to his Deputy, and ſuch other Officers of the Army, who may be charged with the ſame upon their accompt, & ſhall certifie the Treaſurer of the Army, or his Deputy, that ſo defalcation of the value thereof may be made out of the pay of ſuch Officers & Souldiers as ſhall receive the ſame. And the ſaid Committee ſhall likewiſe cauſe all ſuch money & plate to be delivered unto the Treaſurer of the Army, or his Deputy, who ſhall take care to convey the Plate unto the Treaſurer for the propoſitions, and ſhall be charged with all ſuch money upon his accompt as with other money received from them.

FINIS.

His Majesties DECLARATION TO ALL HIS LOVING SUBjects upon occasion of the aforesaid *Ordinance* and *Declaration*.

IT would not be believed (at least great pains have been taken that it might not) that the pretended Ordinance of the *Militia* (the first attempt that ever was to make a Law by Ordinance without Our consent) or the keeping Vs out of *Hull*, and taking Our Armes and Munition from Us, could any way concerne the Interest, Property, or Liberty of the Subject, and it was confessed by that desperate Declaration it selfe of the 26. of *May*, that if they were found guilty of that charge of destroying the title and interest of Our Subjects to their Lands and Goods, it were indeed a very great Crime. But it was a strange fatall Lethargy which had seised Our good People, and kept them from discerning, that the Nobility, Gentry, Commonalty of *England*, were not only stripped of their preheminen-

ces and Priviledges, but of their Liberties and Estates, when Our just Rights were denied Vs, and that no Subject could from thenceforth expect to dwell at home, when We were driven from Our Houses and Our Townes. It was not possible, that a Commission could be granted to the Earle of *Essex*, to raise an Army against Vs, and for the safety of Our Person, and preservation of the Peace of the Kingdome, to pursue, kill and slay Vs and all who wish well to Vs, but that in a short time inferior Commanders, by the same Authority, would require Our good Subjects for the maintenance of the Property of the Subject, to supply them with such summes of Money as they think fit, upon the penalty of being Plundred with all extremity of Warre (as the stile of Sir *Edward Bayntons* Warrant runnes against Our poore Subjects in *Wiltshire*) and by such Rules of unlimited Arbitrary Power, as are inconsistent with the least pretence or shadow of that Property it would seem to defend.

If there could be yet any understanding so unskilfull and Supine to believe, That these Disturbers of the publique peace doe intend any thing but a generall confusion, they have brought them a sad Argument to their own doores to convince them; after this Ordinance and Declaration, 'tis not in any sober mans power to believe himselfe worth any thing, or that there is such a thing as Law, Liberty, Property left in *England*, under the Iurisdiction of these men, and the same power that robbes them now of the Twentieth part of their Estates, hath by that but made a claime and entitled it selfe to the other Ninteen, when it shall be thought fit to hasten the generall ruine. Sure, if the mindes of all men be not stubbornly prepared for servitude, they will look on this Ordinance as the greatest

teſt Prodigie of Arbitrary Power and Tyranny, that any Age hath brought forth in any Kingdom, other Grievances (and the greateſt) have been conceived intolerable, rather by the Logique and Conſequence, then by the Preſſure it ſelfe, this at once ſweepes away all, that the Wiſdome and Iuſtice of Parliaments have provided for them. Is their Property in their Eſtates (ſo carefully looked to by their Anceſtors, and ſo amply eſtabliſhed by Vs againſt any poſſibiliry of Invaſion from the Crowne) which makes the meaneſt Subject as much a Lord of his own as the greateſt Peer, to be valued or conſidered? here is a Twentieth part of every mans Eſtate (or ſo much more as foure men will pleaſe to call the Twentieth part) taken away at once, and yet a Power left to take a Twentieth ſtill of that which remaines, and this to be leavied by ſuch circumſtances of ſeverity, as no Act of Parliament ever conſented to. Is their liberty which diſtinguiſhes Subjects from Slaves, and in which this free-borne Nation hath the Advantage of all Chriſtendome, deare to them? they ſhall not only be impriſon'd in ſuch places of this Kingdom, (a latitude of Iudgement no Court can challenge to it ſelfe in any Caſes) but for ſo long time as the Committee of the houſe of Commons for examination ſhall appoint and order; the Houſe of Commons it ſelfe having never aſſumed, or in the leaſt degree pretended to a power of Iudicature, having no more Authority to adminiſter an Oath (the only way to diſcover and find out the truth of facts) to, then to cut off the heads of any of Our Subjects; and this Committee being ſo farre from being a part of the Parliament, that it is deſtructive to the whole, by uſurping to it ſelfe all the power of King, Lords, and Commons. All who know any thing of Par-

liaments know that a Committee of either Houſe ought not by the Law to publiſh their own Reſultes, neither are their concluſions of any force without the Confirmation of the Houſe, which hath the ſame power of controling them as if the matter had never been debated; but that any Committee ſhould be ſo contracted (as this of Examination, a ſtyle no Committee ever bore before this Parliament) as to exclude the Members of the Houſe, who are equally truſted by their Countrey, from being preſent at the Counſells, is ſo monſtrous to the Priviledges of Parliament, that it is no more in the power of any man to give up that freedom, then of himſelfe to order, that from that time the place for which he ſerves, ſhall never more ſend a Knight or Burgeſſe to the Parliament, and in truth is no leſſe then to alter the whole frame of Government, to pull up Parliaments by the Rootes, and to commit the Lives, Liberties, and Eſtates of all the People of *England*, to the Arbitrary power of a few unqualified Perſons, who ſhall diſpoſe thereof according to their diſcretion, without account to any Rule or Authority whatſoever.

Are their friends, their wives, and Children (the greateſt bleſſings of Peace and the comforts of Life) pretious to them? would even their penury and impriſonment be leſſe grievous by thoſe cordialls? they ſhall be devorced from them, baniſhed, and ſhall no longer remaine within the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, the Suburbes and the Counties adjacent, and how farre thoſe adjacent Counties ſhall extend no man knowes.

Is there any thing now left to enjoy, but the Liberty to Rebell, and deſtroy one another? are the outward bleſſings only of Peace, Property, and Liberty, taken, and forced from Our Subjects? are their Conſciences free and

unaſſaulted

unassaulted by the violence of these firebrands? sure the Liberty & freedome of Conscience cannot suffer by these men: Alasse! all these punishments are imposed upon them because they will not submit to Actions contrary to their naturall Loyalty, to their Oathes of Allegiance and Supremacy, and to their late, voluntary Protestation, which obliges them to the care of Our Person and Our just Rights. How many Persons of Honour, Quality, and Reputation of the severall Countyes of *England*, are now Imprison'd, without any objection against them, but suspition of their Loyalty,? how many of the gravest and most substantiall Cittizens of *London*, by whom the Government and Discipline of that Citty was preserved, are disgraced, robbed, and imprisoned, without any Processe of Law, or colour of accusation, but of obedience to the Law and Government of the Kingdome? whil'st Anabaptists and Brownists with the assistance of vitious and deboshed Persons, of desperate Fortunes take upon them to breake up and rifle houses, as publique and avowed Ministers of a new invented Authority; How many godly, pyous, and painfull Devines, whose Lives and Learning hath made them of reverend Estimation, are now slander'd with inclination to Popery, discountenanced, and imprisoned, for discharging their Consciences in instructing the People in the Christian duty of Religion and Obedience, whil'st Schismaticall, Illiterate, and scandalous Preachers, fill the Pulpits and Churches, with Blasphemy, Irreverence, and Treason, and incite their Auditory to nothing but Murther and Rebellion; We passe over the vulgar charme, by which they have captivated such who have been contented to dispence with their Consciences for the preservation of their Estates, and by which they perswade men cheerfully to part with this twentieth

part of their Estate to the good worke in hand, for whoever will give what he hath, may scape robbing; *They shall be repaid upon the publike Faith, as all other Monyes lent upon the Propositions of both Houses*; it may be so, but men must be condemned to a strange unthriftinesse who will lend upon such security. The publike Faith indeed is as great an earnest as the State can give, and engages the Honour, Reputation and Honesty of the Nation, & is the Act of the Kingdome, 'tis the security of the King, the Lords and Commons, which can never need an Executor, can never dye, never be Bankrupt, and therefore We willingly consented to it for the Indemnity of Our good Subjects of *Scotland*, (who We hope will not thinke the worse of it, for being so often and so cheaply mentioned since.) But that a Vote of one or both Houses should be an engagement upon the publike Faith, is as impossible, as that the Committee of the House of Commons for Examinations, should be the High Court of Parliament.

And what is or can be said with the least shadow of reason to justifie these Extravagances? We have not lately heard of the old fundamentall Lawes which used to warrant the Innovations, this needs a Refuge even below those foundations: They will say they cannot manage their great undertakings without such extraordinary wayes; Wee thinke so too', but that proves only they have undertaken somewhat they ought not to undertake, not that it is lawfull for them to doe any thing that is convenient for those ends: We remembred them long ago, and We cannot doe it too often, of that excellent Speech of Mr *Pyms*. *The Law is that which puts a difference betwixt good and evill, betwixt just and unjust, if you take away the Law, all things will fall into a confusion, every man will become a Law unto himselfe,*

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which in the depraved condition of humane nature, muſt needs produce many great Enormityes, Luſt will become a Law, and Envy will become a Law, Covetouſneſſe and Ambition will become Lawes, and what Dictates, what Deciſions ſuch Lawes will produce may eaſily be diſcerned. It may indeed by the ſad inſtances over the whole Kingdome; But will Poſterity beleeve, that in the ſame Parliament this Doctrine was avowed with that Acclamation, and theſe inſtances after produced; That in the ſame Parliament ſuch care was taken that no man ſhould be committed in what caſe ſoever, without the cauſe of his Impriſonment expreſſed, and that all men ſhould be immediatly bayled in all Caſes bayleable, and during the ſame Parliament that Alderman *Pennington*, or indeed any body elſe, but the ſworne Miniſters of Iuſtice, ſhould impriſon whom they would, & for what they would, and for as long time as they would; That the King ſhould be reproached with breach of Priviledge for accuſing Sr *Iohn Hotham* of high Treaſon, when with force of Armes he kept Him out of *Hull*, and deſpiſed Him to His face, becauſe in no caſe a Member of either Houſe might be committed or accuſed without leave of that Houſe, of which he is a Member, and yet that during the ſame Parliament, the ſame Alderman ſhould commit the *Earle* of *Middleſex* (a Peere of the Realme) and the Lord *Buckhurſt* (a Member of the Houſe of Commons) to the *Counter* without reprehenſion, that to be a Traitour (which is defined and every man underſtands) ſhould be no crime, and to be called Malignant (which no body knowes the meaning of) ſhould be ground enough for cloſe impriſonment; That a Law ſhould be made, that whoſoever ſhould preſume to take Tunnage and poundage without an Act of Parliament, ſhould incurr the penalty of a

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Premunire, and the same Parliament, that the same imposition should be laid upon Our Subjects, and taken by an Order of both Houses, without and against Our Consent. Lastly, that the same Parliament, a Law should be made to declare the proceedings and judgement upon Ship-money to be illegall and voyd, and during that Parliament, that an Order of both Houses shall, upon pretence of necessity, inable foure men to take away the twentieth part of their Estates from all their Neighbours, according to their discretion.

But Our good Subjects will no longer looke upon these and the like Results, as upon the Counsells and conclusions of both Our Houses of Parliament; (though all the world knows even that Authority can never justifie things unwarrantable by the Law) they well know how few of the Persons trusted by them are present at their consultations, of above 500 not 80, and of the House of Peeres, not a fifth part, that they who are present enjoy not the Priviledge and Freedome of Parliament, but are besieged by an Army, and awed by the same Tumults, which drave Us and their fellow Members from thence, to consent to what some few seditious, Schismaticall Persons amongst them doe propose; These are the men, who joyning with the Anabaptists and Brownists of *London*, first changed the Government and Discipline of that Citty, and now by the pride and power of that Citty would undoe the Kingdome, whilst their Lord Maior (a Person accused and known to be guilty of high Treason) by a new Legislative Power of his owne, suppresses and reviles the Booke of Common-Prayer, robbes and imprisons whom he thinkes fit, and with the rabble of his Faction gives Lawes to both Houses of Parliament, and tells them they will have no

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Accommodation, whil'ſt the Members ſent and entruſted by their Countryes, are expelled the Houſe, or committed for refuſing to take the Oath of Aſſociation, to live and dye with the *Earle* of *Eſſex*, as very lately Sir *Sidny Mountague*. Theſe are the men who have preſumed to ſend Ambaſſadors, and to enter into Treatyes with Forraigne States in their owne behalfes, haveing at this time an Agent of their owne with the States of *Holland*, to negotiate for them upon private inſtructions. Theſe are the men, who not thinking they have yet brought miſchiefe enough upon this Kingdome, at this time invite and ſollicite Our Subjects of *Scotland* to enter this Land with an Army againſt Us. In a word, theſe are the men who have made this laſt devouring Ordinance to take away all Law, Liberty, and Property from Our People, and have by it really acted that upon Our People, which with infinite malice, and no colour or ground, was laboured to be infuſed into them to have been Our Intention by the Commiſſions of *Array*.

We have done; What Power and Authority theſe men have, or will have, We know not: for Our Selfe We challenge none ſuch. We looke upon the Preſſures and Inconveniences Our good Subjects beare, even by Us and Our Army, (which the Army firſt raiſed by them enforced Us to leavy in Our defence, and their refuſall of all offers and deſires of Treaty enforceth Vs to keep) with very much ſadneſſe of heart. We are ſo farre from requiring a Twentieth part of their Eſtates (though for their owne viſible preſervation) that as We have already ſold or pawned Our owne Iewells, and coyned Our own Plate, ſo We are willing to ſell all Our owne Land, and Houſes for their relief. Yet We doe not doubt but Our good Sub-

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jects will ſeriouſly conſider Our Condition and their own Dutyes, and thinke Our readineſſe to protect them with the utmoſt hazard of Our Life, deſerves their readineſſe to aſſiſt Vs with ſome part of their Fortunes, and whil'ſt other men give a Twentieth part of their Eſtates, to enable them to forfeite the other Nineteene, that they will extend themſelves to Us in a liberall and free proportion for the preſervation of the reſt, and for the maintenance of God's true Religion, the Lawes of the Land, the Liberty of the Subject, and the ſafety and very being of Parliaments, and this Kingdome: for if all theſe ever were, or can be in manifeſt danger, 'tis now in this preſent Rebellion againſt Vs.

Laſtly; We Will and require all Our loving Subjects of what degree or quality ſoever, as they will anſwer it to God, to Us, & to Poſterity, by their Oathes of Allegiance and Supremacy, as they would not be looked upon now, and remembred hereafter, as Betrayers of the Lawes and Liberty they were borne to, that they in no degree ſubmitt to this wilde pretended Ordinance, and that they preſume not to give any encouragement or aſſiſtance to the Army now in Rebellion againſt Us: which if notwithſtanding they ſhall doe, they muſt expect from Vs the ſevereſt puniſhment the Law can inflict, and a perpetuall Infamy with all good men.

FINIS.